

ParentInfo

News for a child's
most important educator

August 21, 2014



Contents:

- Connect with parents, teachers and administrators at KASC conference
- US Department of Education urges openness about student data collection
- Public service poster contest
- Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch can earn money for AP, IB scores

New to ParentInfo?

Click here to sign up to receive this informative newsletter twice a month.



Students sought for
Next-Generation
Student Council



More students to
get fresh fruits and
vegetables



Girls in Science Day

Links:

- [Kentucky Board of Education approves regulations and global competency resolution](#)
- [Students excel at FCCLA National Leadership Conference](#)
- [Board discusses transforming assessments to improve instruction](#)

Student members sought for Next-Generation Student Council

Your child could have the ear of Commissioner of Education Terry Holliday by serving on the Next-Generation Student Council. The group, which Holliday created as a way to get feedback from students and engage student leaders, is seeking applicants for the 2014-15 school year.

The 11-member group meets both in person and online to discuss how Department of Education decisions affect students throughout the state. The group also provides feedback to the department on critical issues impacting students and schools.

In addition to working with the commissioner, the council will work with Department of Education staff to develop ideas to improve and transform education in the state.

Students in grades 10 through 12 are eligible for the yearlong program. The deadline to apply is Aug. 29.

All students are encouraged to apply in hopes that the council will reflect the state's academic, geographic, demographic and school-size diversity. The council is looking for students with refreshing ideas and thoughtful insight about how to improve schools and student achievement.

An FAQ and the application are available [here](#). A KDE committee will review and score the applications based on the answers to the questions and how well the applicants communicate their ideas and goals. Six new members will be selected this year to serve alongside the five returning members.

Contact Stephanie Siria at Stephanie.siria@education.ky.gov or 502-564-2000 ext. 4614 for more information.



Commissioner Terry Holliday talks with returning Next-Generation Student Council members Tiffany Parham and Guyron Spalding before the start of their meeting in Frankfort.

More students to get fresh fruits and vegetables

Nearly 56,700 students in 137 Kentucky elementary schools will enjoy fresh produce for the 2014-15 school year as part of the federal Fresh Fruit and Vegetable program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The program provides all children in the participating schools with a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the school day. The goals of the program are to provide healthier food options, introduce students to new fruits and vegetables, increase students' fresh produce consumption and improve their current and future health.

Kentucky received \$2.91 million in funding for the program for this school year. The schools were selected based on applications from elementary schools that operate the National School Lunch Program and have 50 percent or more students eligible for free or reduced-price meals. Priority was given to schools with the highest percentages of eligible students. The selected schools will receive about \$51.50 per student.

For a list of the participating schools, click [here](#).



Connect with parents, teachers and administrators at KASC conference

The annual Kentucky Association of Schools Council will be held Sept. 16 and 17 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville. The conference, titled Shared Leadership: Connect, Engage and Achieve, is designed to bring together parents, teachers and administrators to focus on what's working in Kentucky schools.

Dr. Michael Corso, chief academic officer of the Quaglia Institute for Student Aspirations, is scheduled to speak. There will be sessions on technology, student voice, and strategies from 18 high-performing schools. There will also be specific sessions for site-based decision making council credit.

For more information or to register, visit the [KASC website](#).



US Department of Education urges openness about student data collection

Do you know what data your school and district collect about your child? The U.S. Department of Education wants schools and districts to keep parents better informed about what student data is collected and how it is used.

“Now more than ever, schools need data to monitor academic progress and develop successful teaching strategies,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. “At the same time, parents need assurance that their children’s personal information is being used responsibly. This guidance helps schools strike a balance between the two.”

The department’s Family Policy Compliance Office (FPCO) has a new website that includes resources and information to help keep the public informed about the privacy and use of student records.

The site, <http://familypolicy.ed.gov>, is designed to help school officials, parents and students find the information. The department plans to post decision letters from complaints handled by FPCO, which administers the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The new guidance recommends that schools and districts provide parents with information, such as:

- What information are you collecting about students?
- Why are you collecting this information?
- How is the information protected?
- Do you share any personal information with third parties? If so, with whom and for what purpose(s)?
- Whom should parents contact if they have questions about your data practices?



The guidance also advises schools to make information about student data policies clear, consistent and easy to find on their website. Members of the community should periodically review the site for ease of use, comprehension and completeness.

For more information on the Family Policy Compliance Office, see its [website](http://familypolicy.ed.gov).

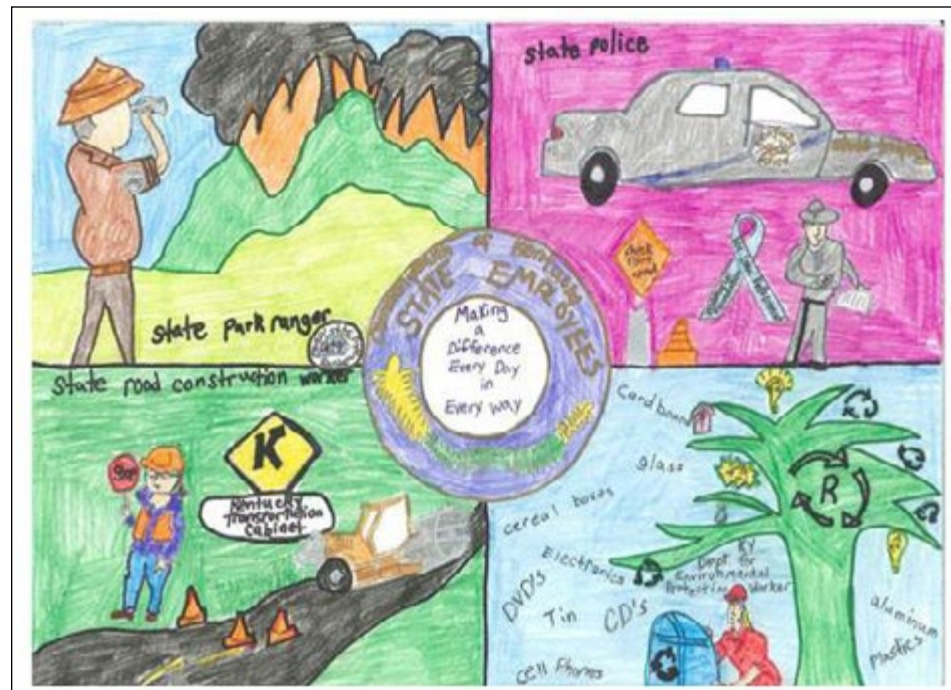
Girls in Science Day

Western Kentucky University's Ogden College of Science and Engineering will hold Girls in Science Day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 6 in Room 2113 at Snell Hall at the Bowling Green campus. The day will allow girls in grades 5 through 12 to explore topics in math, technology, engineering and science through interactive sessions.

The girls will also meet women working in STEM careers.

The day will conclude with a chemistry show.

For more information or to register, contact Melissa Rudloff at Melissa.rudloff@wku.edu.



Poster by 2013 winner Mary Kate Rakestraw, Dixon Elementary (Webster County)

Public service poster contest

Students are invited to participate in the 2014 Public Service Recognition Poster Contest. This year's theme is "Making a difference, every day in every way."

For more information, go to the [Personnel Cabinet website](#) or contact the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet's Office of Employee Relations at 502-564-5955 or 502-564-5954. Winners will be posted on the website on Sept. 22.

There are three categories: ages 6-9, 10-13 and 14-19. Winners receive a \$100 award and an invitation to a ceremony at the Capitol in October. Entries must be postmarked by Sept. 12.

Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch can earn money for AP, IB scores

High school students who are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches can earn extra Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship awards by scoring well on Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exams.

A student has to qualify for the lunch program for one year or more during high school to be eligible for the bonus awards.

For each AP exam score of 3, 4, or 5 the eligible student will earn a KEES bonus of \$200, \$250 or \$300, respectively. The same dollar amounts apply to an IB score of 5, 6 or 7.

There is no limit to the amount of AP or IB bonuses a student can receive.

AP and IB classes also carry extra weight when the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority figures grade point averages for the yearly KEES awards. For example, an A in an AP or IB class is worth five points.

For more information about Kentucky scholarships and grants go to www.kheaa.com; write to KHEAA, P.O. Box 798, Frankfort, KY 40602 or call 800-928-8926, ext. 6-7372.

